

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 CANBER 01989 040506Z

12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 ACDA-19 SAM-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01

SCI-06 NASA-04 NSF-04 NAS-01 DRC-01 NEA-10 AF-10 IO-14

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 /171 W

----- 077553

O 040415Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2924 IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CINCPAC

UNCLAS CANBERRA 1989

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD.

EO 11652: NA.

TAGS: MARR, PINR, AS, UR, US.

SUBJECT: JOINT AUSTRALIAN-RUSSIAN SCIENTIFIC BASE.

1. THERE FOLLOWS TEXT OF A QUESTION WITHOUT NOTICE BY
LEADER OF GOA OPPOSITION AND REPLY BY PRIME MINISTER IN
THE COURSE OF PARLIAMENTARY SESSION APRIL 3:

2. QTE: MR. SNEDDED: MY QUESTION IS ADDRESSED TO THE
MINISTER REPRESENTING THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
DID THE GOVERNMENT RECEIVE A REQUEST TO ESTABLISH A JOINT
AUSTRALIAN- RUSSIAN SCIENTIFIC BASE IN AUSTRALIA? IF A
RUSSIAN-AUSTRALIAN SCIENTIFIC BASE WERE ESTABLISHED IN
AUSTRALIA WOULD IT NOT REPRESENT A THREAT TO THE ALLIANCE
BETWEEN AUSTRALIA AND THE UNITED STATES AND WOULD IT BE
LIKELY TO RENDER USELESS ANY BASES WHICH THE UNITED STATES
HAS IN AUSTRALIA TODAY? WILL THE GOVERNMENT, WITHOUT ANY
FURTHER ADO, REJECT THE RUSSIAN REQUEST, UNQTE.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 CANBER 01989 040506Z

3. QTE MR. WHITLAM: A FEW WEEKS AGO A PARTY OF VISITING RUSSIAN SCIENTISTS DID RAISE WITH THEIR AUSTRALIAN COUNTER-PARTS THE PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A JOINT AUSTRALIAN SOVIET STATION. STATION IS THE WORD, NOT BASE. THE PROPOSAL WAS THAT THE STATION WOULD BE USED FOR THE PURPOSES OF PHOTOGRAPHING SPACE OBJECTS AND CONTRIBUTING TO A STUDY OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF THE ATMOSPHERE. THE PROPOSAL IS CURRENTLY UNDER STUDY IN APPROPRIATE DEPARTMENTS. NO POLICY HAS BEEN GIVEN TO MINISTERS AND MINISTERS HAVE NOT CONSIDERED THE MATTER COLLECTIVELY, NOR INDIVIDUALLY HAS ANY OF THEM FORMED A CONCLUDED VIEW. OBVIOUSLY THE IMPLICATIONS FOR VARIOUS UNITED STATES INSTALLATIONS IN AUSTRALIA WERE KEPT IN MIND. NONE OF THOSE INSTALLATIONS CAN PROPERLY BE DESCRIBED AS A BASE. SOME ARE APPROPRIATELY DESCRIBED AS HAVING DEFENCE COMMUNICATIONS SIGNIFICANCE AND OTHERS ARE PROPERLY DESCRIBED AS PURE SCIENTIFIC STATIONS. ACCORDINGLY, THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT INFORMED THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT. THE AMERICANS KNOW ABOUT THIS BECAUSE WE, THE AUSTRALIANS, TOLD THEM. IF THERE IS MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE IN ANY SUCH PROPOSALS FROM THE SOVIET UNION OR FROM ANYBODY ELSE IT IS MOST LIKELY THAT THE PROPOSALS WILL BE ACCEPTED.

4. QTE THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT TAKES THE ATTITUDE THAT THERE SHOULD NOT BE FOREIGN MILITARY BASES, STATIONS, INSTALLATIONS, IN AUSTRALIA. WE HONOUR AGREEMENTS COVERING EXISTING STATIONS. WE DO NOT FAVOR THE EXTENSION OR PROLONGATION OF ANY OF THESE EXISTING ONES. THE AGREEMENTS STAND, BUT THERE WILL NOT BE EXTENSIONS OR PROLIFERATIONS. NOR IN MY VIEW OR ANY ASSESSMENT IS THERE ANY PROSPECT OF INSTALLATIONS OR STATIONS WITH MILITARY SIGNIFICANCE BEING INTRODUCED FOR THE FIRST TIME INTO AUSTRALIA BY ANY OTHER NATION. AND WE DO OUR BEST TO SEE THAT IN THE INDIAN OCEAN THE PRESENT INSTALLATIONS AND BASES ARE NOT EXPANDED AND THAT THEIR NUMBERS ARE NOT INCREASED. UNQTE.

5. COMMENT FOLLOWS SEPTTEL.
GREEN

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION, AGREEMENTS, MILITARY BASES, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974CANBER01989
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740075-0477
From: CANBERRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740466/aaaacige.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 MAY 2002 by bryansd0>; APPROVED <17 DEC 2002 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: JOINT AUSTRALIAN-RUSSIAN SCIENTIFIC BASE.
TAGS: MARR, PINR, AS, UR, US, (WHITLAM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005